

HOUSE RESOLUTION 384

By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Tennessee's election workers for their honorable and astute service to the people of this State.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens by ensuring free and fair elections; and

WHEREAS, one such laudable group of civic-minded citizens are the election workers of our State; and

WHEREAS, with the greatest integrity and probity they worked unfailingly to guide an unprecedented number of "Super Tuesday" voters to the polls, ensuring the integrity of the voting process even while facing the hazards of perilous weather on February 5, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee's election workers represent every facet of our society and communities and serve as a tangible link between the voting public and the election process; and

WHEREAS, providing an invaluable service to democracy, election officials are public-spirited citizens of the highest order and are clearly one of this state's most valuable resources; and

WHEREAS, thousands of conscientious Tennesseans, all of them dedicated to protecting the fairness of the electoral process, are required to perform this vital civic function; and

WHEREAS, polling place workers span the generations; from students to senior citizens they mirror the amazing diversity of their communities and Tennessee as a whole; and

WHEREAS, indeed, election workers are the very backbone of American democracy, and their dedicated service allows our democracy to flourish; and

WHEREAS, as election laws have become increasingly complex, having skilled poll workers at the ready has become more critical than ever before; and

WHEREAS, these estimable citizens: officers, registrars, gatekeepers, and machine operators, were surely tested on the evening of February 5, 2008, as a swath of devastating tornadoes tore through the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, their professionalism and dedication were in full evidence that evening as these poll workers found themselves ensuring the integrity of not only the election process, but in some cases, the well-being of large numbers of civic-minded voters as well; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee election workers are true “champions of democracy,” and it is most appropriate to recognize the important contributions they make each time we cast our votes; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize and commend the election workers of this State for the vital services they perform in ensuring free and fair elections. We further commend their exceptional dedication in the face of devastating storms and unusually high voter participation on February 5, 2008, and salute their unswerving commitment to American democracy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.